NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION



July 10, 2011

The Honorable John D. Dingell U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Dingell:

On behalf of the National Sheriffs' Association (NSA) and the 3,083 elected sheriffs nationwide, we are writing to express our strong support for your introduction of the Public Safety Spectrum and Wireless Innovation Act in the U.S. House of Representatives. This legislation serves as a companion bill to S. 911 – SPECTRUM Act, introduced by Senator Jay Rockefeller (D-WV) and Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX) in the Senate.

The Public Safety Spectrum and Wireless Innovation Act includes key legislative principles that both the public safety; and state and local government communities have requested as a top priority issue for Congress to enact this year, ahead of the 10th Anniversary of the tragic events of 9/11.

Specifically, your legislation would: allocate the D Block to public safety for the creation and implementation of a nationwide public safety interoperable mobile broadband network; reauthorize the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to conduct spectrum auctions in the future to boost the economy and raise revenue to pay down the debt and fund other programs; and authorize voluntary incentive auctions to generate tens of billions in new revenue for not only debt reduction, but to fund the nationwide interoperable public safety broadband network.

Congressman Dingell, like S. 911, your legislation meets a still outstanding recommendation of the bipartisan 9/11 Commission. The nation's sheriffs thank you for your leadership in sponsoring this critical legislation, and we stand ready to assist you in enacting this vital legislation before the 10th Anniversary of 9/11.

Sincerely,

Sheriff Paul H. Fitzgerald

Paul H. Fifzerald

President

Aaron D. Kennard Executive Director